

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Appln. No: To Be Assigned
Applicants: Takahito ISHII, et al.
Filed: Herewith
Title: FLEXIBLE PTC HEATING ELEMENT AND METHOD OF
MANUFACTURING THE HEATING ELEMENT
TC/A.U.: To Be Assigned
Examiner: To Be Assigned
Confirmation No.: To Be Assigned
Docket No.: MAT-8638US

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT***Mail Stop PCT***

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

S I R :

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.97 and 1.98 and to the duty of disclosure set forth in 37 C.F.R. § 1.56, the Examiner in charge of the above-identified application is requested to consider and make of record the references listed on the PTO 1449 (R&P) submitted herewith. A copy of each of the listed references is also enclosed.

Although the information submitted herewith may be "material" to the Examiner's consideration of the subject application, this submission is not intended to constitute an admission that such information is "prior art" as to the claimed invention.

In accordance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(g), the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement shall not be construed to mean that a search has been made.

The following Japanese references are not in the English language:

- 1) 2003-217904

- 2) 2003-217902
- 3) 2003-109804
- 4) 2003-109803
- 5) 2002-270403
- 6) 2001-237104
- 7) 2001-326105
- 8) 56-13689
- 9) 06-096843
- 10) 08-120182

References 1) to 7) and 9) and 10) include an English language abstract. Reference 8) includes a partial English translation.

In addition, References 8) to 10) include a "concise explanation" under 37 CFR § 1.98(a)(3) as set forth in the background portion of the specification.

Further, References 1) to 3) and 5) to 7) were cited in a search report by a foreign Patent Office in a patent application corresponding to the above-identified patent application. An English translation of the International Search Report, indicating the degree of relevance determined by the foreign patent office, is submitted herewith. MPEP Section 609 IIIA(3), second paragraph.

Reference JP 2003-217903 appears in the International Search Report in the "Y" and "P" categories. Applicants' representative believes, however, that this was missing and that Reference JP 2003-109803 was intended.

This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed concurrently with
the above-referenced application.

Respectfully submitted,


Lawrence E. Ashery, Reg. No. 34,515
Attorney for Applicants

LEA/fp

Enclosures: PTO Form 1449 (2 sheets)
Copies of (11) References
International Search Report

Dated: December 7, 2004

P.O. Box 980
Valley Forge, PA 19482-0980
(610) 407-0700

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**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE
STATEMENT BY APPLICANT**

(Use as many sheets as necessary)

SHEET 1 of 2

Complete if Known

Application Number	To Be Assigned
Filing Date	Herewith
First Named Inventor	Takahito ISHII, et al.
Art Unit	To Be Assigned
Examiner Name	To Be Assigned
Attorney Docket No.	MAT-8638US

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Document Number	Publication Date (MM-DD-YYYY)	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
		Number - Kind Code ² (if known)			

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Foreign Patent Document	Publication Date (MM-DD- YYYY)	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear	T ⁶
		Country Code ³ - Number ⁴ - Kind Code ⁵ (if known)				
		JP 2003-217904 A (with English abstract)	07/31/03	MATSUSHITA ELEC IND CO LTD		<input type="checkbox"/>
		JP 2003-217902 A (with English abstract)	07/31/03	MATSUSHITA ELEC IND CO LTD		<input type="checkbox"/>
		JP 2003-109804 A (with English abstract)	04/11/03	MATSUSHITA ELEC IND CO LTD		<input type="checkbox"/>
		JP 2003-109803 (with English abstract)	04/11/03	MATSUSHITA ELEC IND CO LTD		<input type="checkbox"/>
		JP 2002-270403 A (with English abstract)	09/20/02	MATSUSHITA ELEC IND CO LTD		<input type="checkbox"/>
		WO 00/10177	02/24/00	GENERAL ELECTRIC CO		<input type="checkbox"/>
		JP 2001-237104 A (with English abstract)	08/31/01	NGK INSULATORS LTD		<input type="checkbox"/>
		JP 2001-326105 A (with English abstract)	11/22/01	TDK CORP		<input type="checkbox"/>
		JP 56-13689 (with partial English translation)	02/10/81	MATSUSHITA DENKI SANGYO CO LTD		<input type="checkbox"/>
		JP 06-096843 (with English abstract)	04/08/94	NIPPON CARBON CO LTD		<input type="checkbox"/>
		JP 08-120182 (with English abstract)	05/14/96	NDK CORP		<input type="checkbox"/>
						<input type="checkbox"/>

Examiner
SignatureDate
Considered

*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to Applicant.

¹Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional).

²See Kind Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at www.uspto.gov or MPEP 901.04.

³Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard St.3).

⁴For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document.

⁵Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST.16 if possible.

⁶Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language translation is attached.

The collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.97 and 1.98. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 2 hours to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. Department of Commerce, Washington, DC 20231. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. **SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.**

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INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT

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Application Number	To Be Assigned
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Filing Date	Herewith
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First Named Inventor	Takahito ISHII, et al.
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Art Unit	To Be Assigned
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Examiner Name	To Be Assigned
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SHEET 2 of 2

Attorney Docket No.	MAT-8638US
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NON-PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS

Examiner
Initials*Cite
No. ¹

Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published

 τ^2

English translation of International Search Report for PCT/JP2003/007600, dated September 24, 2003.

Examiner
Signature

Date
Considered

¹Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional).

²Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language translation is attached.

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